

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1-5, 8-11, 14-16, and 18-20 stand rejected and claims 6, 7, 12, 13, and 17 are objected to. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 6, 7, 12, 13, and 17. In light of the remarks set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Claims 1 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,347,091 ("Wallentin"). Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Among the limitations of Applicant's independent claims not present in the cited references is that there is "a relay node list held by the node, as a pair, ID information on said terminal station and a relay source node included in the uplink packet transmitted by said terminal station, in each said core node and said relay node". This feature is not present in the cited reference.

As explicitly claimed and disclosed in the specification, in FIG. 1 of the present invention, the terminal station F11 is connected to the relay node F09 by wireless, and an uplink packet transmitted from the terminal station F11 is communicated to the core node F05 via the relay nodes F09 and F12. In this case, a relay source node of the uplink packet received at the relay node F12 is the relay node F09. Therefore, the relay node F12 registers 10 information on the relay node F09 with a relay node list of the relay node F12. A relay source node of the uplink packet received at the core node F05 is the relay node F12. Therefore, the core node F05 registers 10 information on the relay node F12 with a relay node list of the core node F05.

Thus, a relay node list is managed for each node, and each node can determine, based on a relay node list of the node, a relay node to which a downlink packet is to be relayed. In the above example, the core node F05 transmits to the relay

node F12 a downlink packet addressed to the terminal station F11, and the relay node F12 transmits to the relay node F09 the downlink packet addressed to the terminal station F11.

This is neither taught nor suggested by Wallentin. Wallentin discloses that a network stores the routing area identification number where the mobile station last registered. That is, the network only stores information on the base station to which the mobile station is connected or was last connected. Wallentin does not teach a relay node list as explicitly recited in the claims.

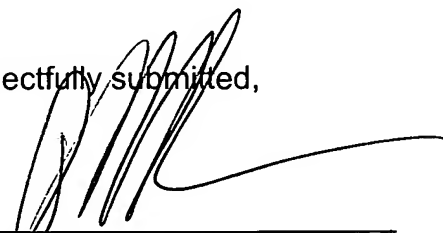
Applicant has responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: April 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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